



SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC TRENDS



April 2025



CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. REAL SECTOR.....	3
Industrial Production	3
Number of Employees in the Industry	4
Industrial producer prices on the domestic market	5
Industrial turnover index	5
Number of Issued Building Permits and Expected Value of Constructions	6
Number of Completed Construction Works by Types of Constructions	7
Trade Sector Turnover.....	7
Inflation	8
Stock Market Prices.....	10
2. FOREIGN TRADE	11
Export	11
Import	12
Trade Balance.....	13
Currency Structure.....	14
3. FISCAL SECTOR	14
Budget Revenues and Expenditures according to the Economic Classification	14
Expenditures by Budget Users	16
4. SOCIAL SECTOR	18
Newly Employed and Registered Unemployed Persons in the Employment Service Agency	18
Wages	19
Pensions.....	19
5. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL SECTOR	20
Primary Money	21
Bank Credits	22
Interest Rates of Deposit Banks.....	22
Capital Market	23
Reserve Assets.....	23





SUMMARY

OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC TRENDS

April 2025

- In April 2025, industrial production surged by 1.4%, compared to the same month last year.
- In April 2025, industrial producer prices on the domestic market were higher by 6.4% compared to the same month last year.
- In April 2025, the industrial turnover, compared to April 2024, recorded an increase by 6.0%.
- In April 2025, inflation rate accounted for 2.6% on annual basis, continuing its downward trend from 2.7% in March 2025. Inflation recorded growth of 0.6% on monthly basis.
- Export in the period January - April 2025 dropped by 1.5%, while import dropped by 0.8%, resulting in increase of the trade deficit by 0.8% compared to the same period in 2024.
- In the period January – April 2025, collection of total budget revenues of the Republic of North Macedonia's budget amounted to Denar 106,984 million, accounting for 29.8% of the 2025 projections, i.e. increase of 8.8% compared to collected budget revenues during the corresponding period in 2024.
- Total budget expenditures were executed in the amount of Denar 121,688 million in the period January – April 2025, accounting for 30.4% of the annual projections, i.e. an increase of 8.0% compared to same period of 2024.
- Total credits of banks in April 2025 grew by 11.8% compared to April 2024, while total deposit potential of banks surged by 11.6%.



1. REAL SECTOR

Industrial Production

In April 2025, industrial production surged by 1.4%, compared to the same month last year. Growth was due to increased production of 2.5% in Manufacturing, while decrease in production was recorded in the sectors, as follows: Mining and quarrying by 1.2% and Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply by 18.3%.

In April 2025, growth in production was registered only at 13 out of total of 27 industrial branches, comprising 57.8% in the total industry.

In April 2025, with respect to branches with higher added value, an increase was recorded at the following branches: Production of metals by 8.6% with contribution of 0.3 percentage points, Manufacture of electrical equipment by 20.6% with contribution of 1.5 percentage points, and Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers by 6.9% with contribution of 1.2 percentage points, while drop was recorded only at Manufacture of machinery and equipment and by 23.1% and contribution of -1.3 percentage points.

Traditional branches in April 2025 recorded growth in production throughout the following branches: Manufacture of tobacco products by 54.5% and contribution of 0.6 percentage points, Manufacture of leather by 14.5% and contribution of 0.1% percentage points, Manufacture of textile by 0.6% and contribution of 0.0 percentage points and Food industry by 0.3% and contribution of 0.0 percentage points, whereas reduction was recorded in Manufacture of wearing apparel by 3.9% with contribution of -0.2 percentage points, Manufacture of beverages by 5.0% with contribution of -0.2 percentage points, 5.0% and contribution of -0.2 percentage points, and Manufacture of wood and wood and cork products by 24.8%, with contribution of -0.2 percentage points.

In April 2025, industrial production with respect to purpose of production units and compared to April 2024, increased solely with the Intermediate products, except energy (growth of 15.2% and contribution of 4.5 percentage points), and decreased throughout the following groups: Energy (decreasing by 16.2% and contribution of -1.4 p.p.), Capital goods (declining by 6.0% and contribution of -1.5 p.p.), Durable consumer goods industry (dropping by 0.2% and contribution of 0.0 p.p.) and Non-durable consumer goods (dropping by 2.1% and contribution of -0.7 p.p.).

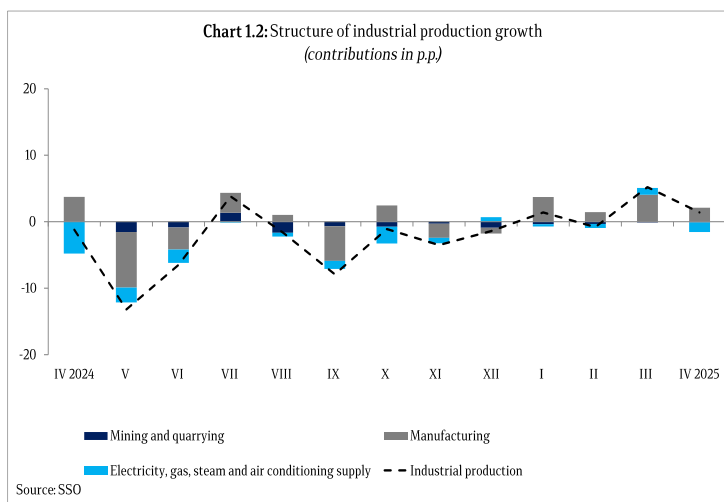
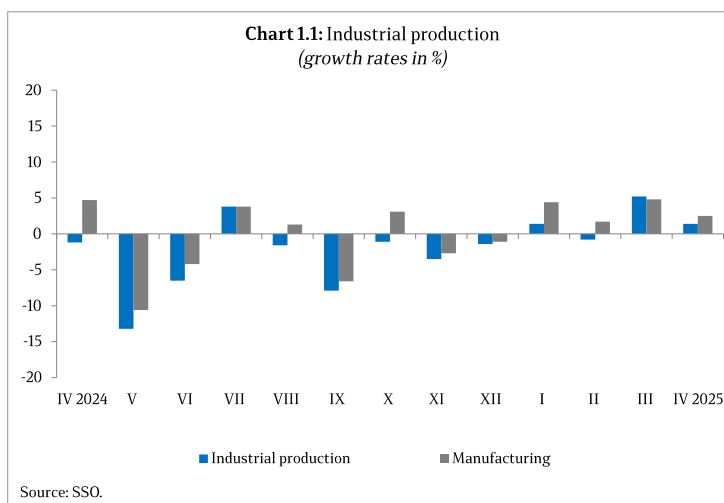
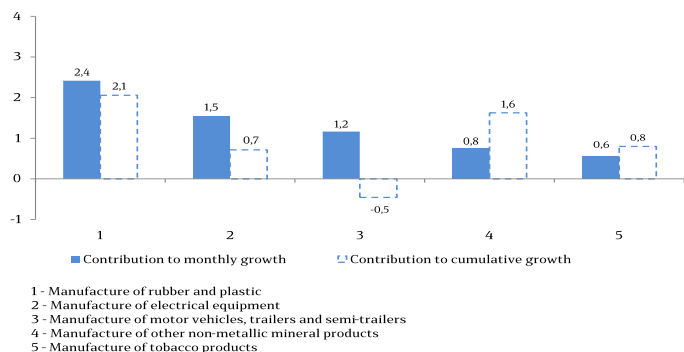


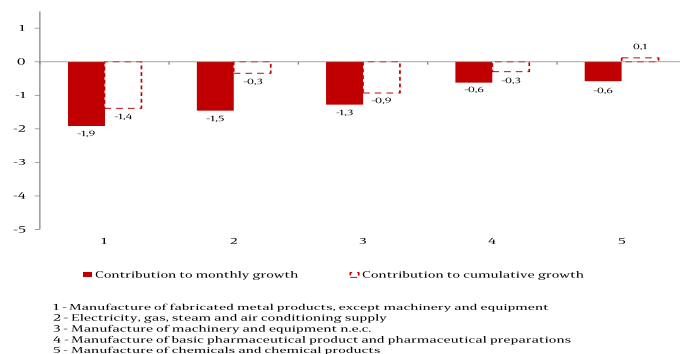


Chart 1.3a: Branches with positive contribution to growth
(growth rates in %, April 2025)



Source: SSO

Chart 1.3b: Branches with negative contribution to growth
(growth rates in %, April 2025)



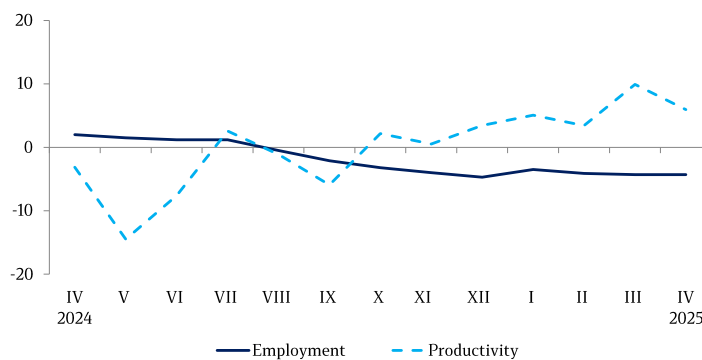
Source: SSO

According to the purpose of production units, in the period January – April 2025 growth was recorded at branches Intermediate goods except, energy (17.1%), and Durable consumer goods industry (5.2%), while drop at Energy (by 5.1%), Capital goods (by 8.8%) and Non-durable consumer goods (by 0.4%).

Number of Employees in the Industry

In April 2025, number of employees in the industry decreased by 4.3% compared to the same month in the previous year. Such decline was due to the reduced number of employees in all sectors, as follows: Mining and quarrying by 2.4%, Manufacturing by 4.5% and Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply by 2.4%. Increase in the number of employees was seen at the following branches: Manufacture of machinery and equipment, n.e.c. by 16.3%, Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations by 7.0%, and Manufacture of beverages by 4.6%.

Chart 1.4: Employment and productivity in industry
(growth rates in %)



Source: SSO; calculations by MF.

In April 2025, compared to the same month last year, data on the number of employees in the industry by target groups showed increase in the number of employees only at Consumer durables by 11.8%.

On cumulative basis, the number of employers in the industry in the period January - April 2025 recorded a drop of 4.0% due to the decreased number of employees throughout sectors: Mining and quarrying by 2.1%, Manufacturing by 4.2% and Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply by 1.8%.

As regards target groups, number of employees in the industry in the period January - April in 2025 increased only at Consumer durables by 16.2%.



Industrial producer prices on the domestic market

In April 2025, industrial producer prices on the domestic market were higher by 6.4% compared to the same month last year. Increase was due to raised prices throughout all sectors: Mining and quarrying by 0.3%, Manufacturing by 4.4%, Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply by 18.4% and Water supply; Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities by 4.8%.

In April 2025, the industrial producer prices on the domestic market compared to the same month in 2024 were higher in the groups as follows: Energy by 16.9%, Intermediate products, except energy by 4.7%, Consumer goods by 4.3% and Consumer non-durables by 4.6%.

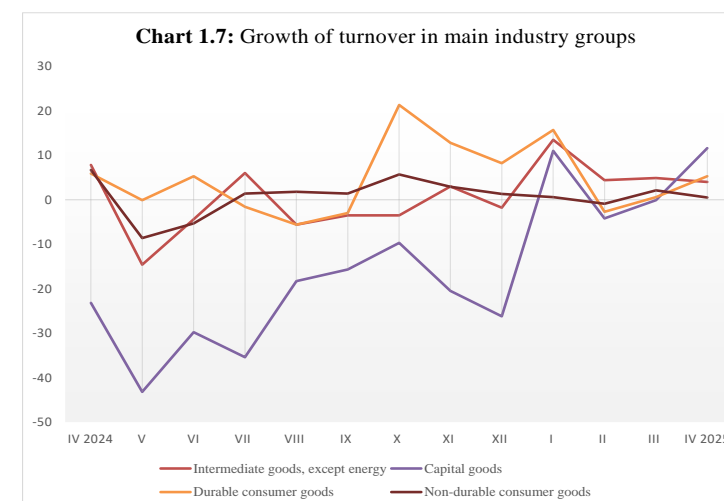
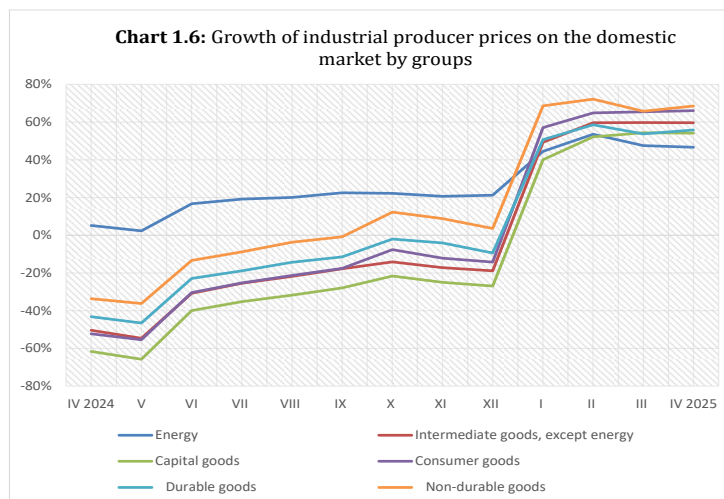
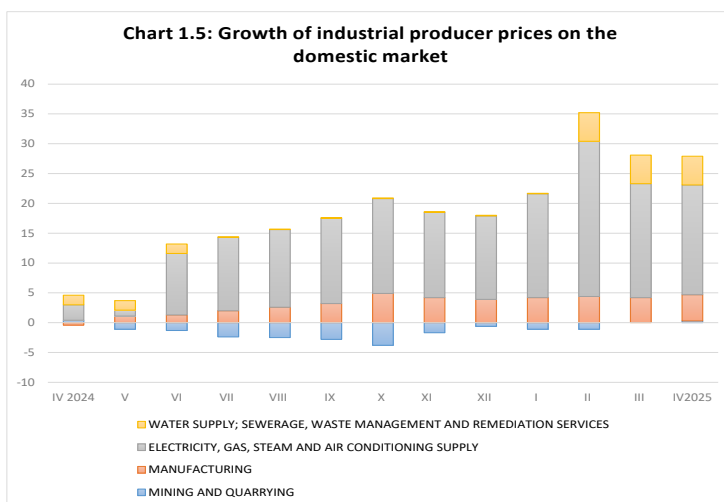
In the period between January and April 2025 compared to the same period last year, industrial producer prices on the domestic market were higher by 6.6% on cumulative basis, due to increased prices throughout the following sectors: Manufacturing by 4.3%, Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply by 20.1% and Water supply; Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities by 4.8%, whereas in the sector Mining and quarrying, the sale prices decreased by 0.3%.

In the period between January and April 2025 compared to the same period in 2024, the sale prices of industrial product producers on the domestic market were higher in the groups as follows: Energy by 18.4%, Intermediate products, except energy by 3.4%, Consumer goods by 5.0% and Consumer non-durables by 5.3%.

Industrial turnover index

In April 2025, the industrial turnover, compared to April 2024, recorded an increase by 6.0% as per the State Statistical Office's data. Growth was due to the decreased turnover in the Manufacturing by 6.6%, while drop was observed in the Mining and quarrying sector by 9.4%.

In April 2025 compared to April 2024,





industrial turnover increased throughout all groups: Intermediate goods, except energy – 4.0%, Capital goods – 11.6%, Consumer durables – 5.3%, and Consumer non-durables – 0.5%.

Branches with highest turnover growth in the industry in April 2025 compared to the same month last year were the following:

- Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (picking up by 94.7%),
- Manufacture of leather and related products (growth of 20.2%), and
- Manufacture of electrical equipment (surging by 18.7%).

On cumulative basis, in the period between January and April 2025, compared to the same period last year, turnover in industry recorded an increase by 3.6%, due to increase in turnover in both sectors - Mining and quarrying sector and Manufacturing sector by 7.4% and 3.5%, respectively.

In the period between January and April 2025, compared to the same period in 2024, industrial turnover increased throughout all groups: Intermediate goods, except energy – 6.3%, Capital goods – 3.8%, Consumer durables – 4.0%, and Consumer non-durables – 0.6%.

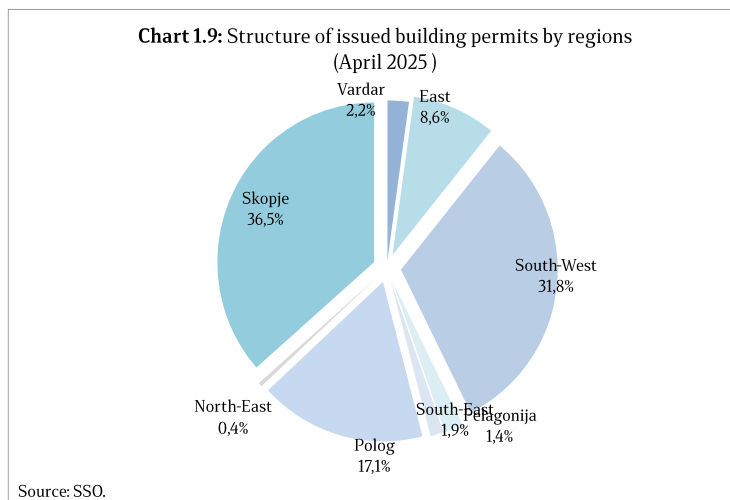
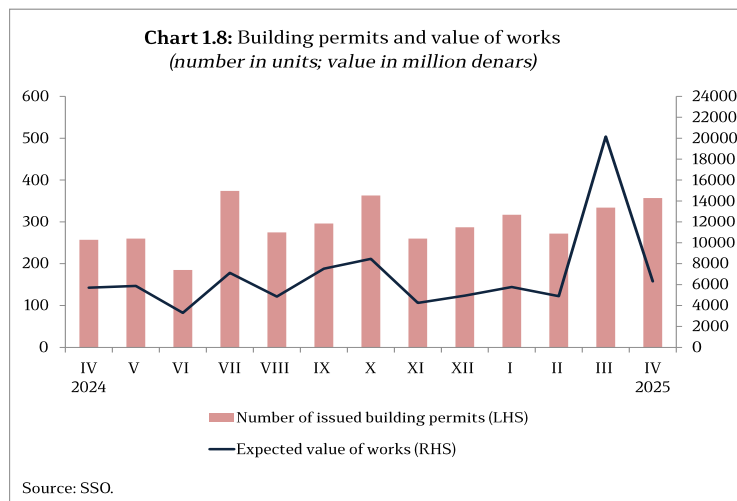
Number of Issued Building Permits and Expected Value of Constructions

In April 2025, 357 building permits were issued, growing by 38.9% compared to the same month in 2024. This was due to the annual increase of issued building permits pertaining to buildings by 83.1% (participating with 33.3% in the total number of issued building permits) and reconstruction by 30.1%.

Compared to March 2025, number of issued building permits surged by 6.9%. Expected value of works, according to the issued building permits in April 2025, increased by 10.7% on annual basis, while compared to the previous month, it decreased by 68.7%.

Analysed by types of constructions, out of the total number of issued building permits, 177 (or 49.6%) were intended for buildings, 61 (or 17.1%) with respect to civil engineering structures and 119 (or 33.3%) for reconstruction purposes.

Analysed by types of investors, out of total 357 issued building permits, individuals were investors in 154 facilities (or 43.1%), while business entities were investors in 203 facilities (or 56.9%).





In April 2025, construction of 729 flats was envisaged, with total usable area of 60,833 m². Number of flats envisaged for construction increased by 6.4% on monthly basis, surging by 2.7% on annual basis.

Number of Completed Construction Works by Types of Constructions

Total value of performed construction works in March 2025 amounted to Denar 2,750 million, representing an annual growth of 4.4% in nominal terms, whereby buildings and specialized construction works grew by 17.5% and 84.6%, respectively, while civil engineering structures dropped by 4.1%. Compared to February 2024, total value of completed construction works recorded growth by 6.6%, with civil engineering structures surging by 28.0%, and specialised construction works increasing by 44.5%, while a drop was observed by 23.8% as regards buildings. In cumulative

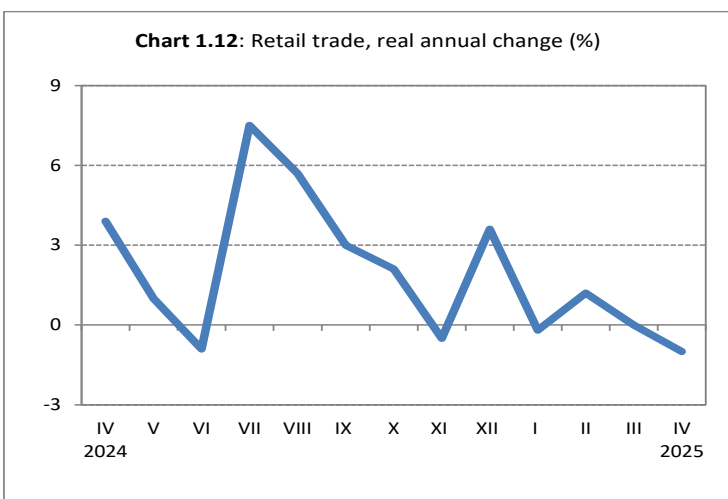
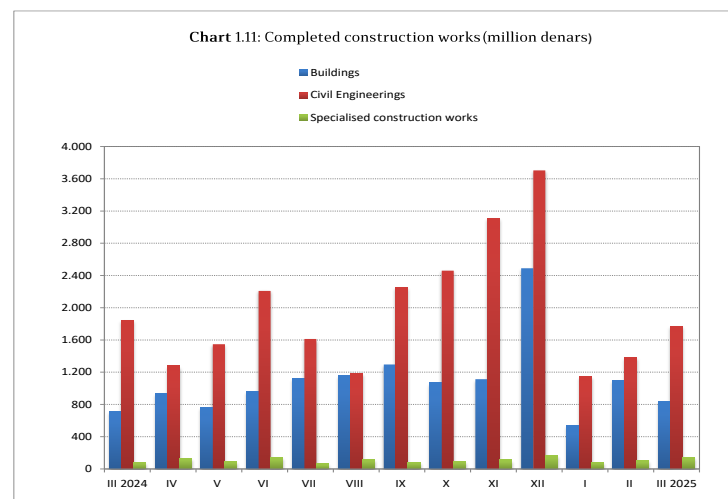
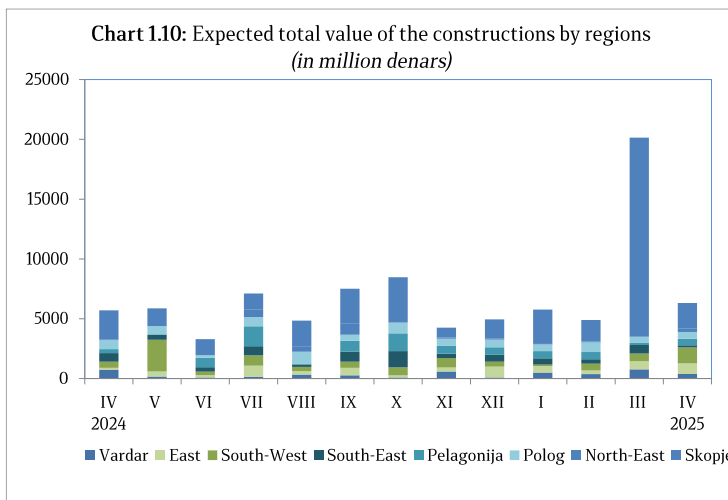
terms, in the period January – March 2025, value of performed construction works amounted to Denar 7,091 million, being higher by 5.5% compared to the same period last year.

Most of the completed construction works pertained to civil engineering construction, wherein construction works amounting to Denar 4,290 million were completed during January - March 2025, i.e. being lower by 8.8% compared to the same period last year. During this period, the value of completed building construction works increased by 35.2%, amounting to Denar 2,469 million, whereas the value of completed specialised construction works amounted to Denar 332 thousand, being higher by 69.9% as compared to the same period last year.

In real terms, in the period January - March 2025, value of completed construction works increased by 7.0%, with buildings and specialised construction works recording growth of 37.2% and 72.3% respectively, while recording a drop with civil engineering structures (7.4%).

Trade Sector Turnover

In April 2025, data on domestic trade demonstrated annual drop in the turnover by 2.5% in nominal terms,





following 1.0% drop in March 2025. In April 2024, value of turnover amounted to Denar 67,272 million, whereby in cumulative terms, in the period January - April 2023, value of total turnover in the trade amounted to Denar 256.627 million, being by 0.9% higher compared to the same period previous year.

In the period January - April 2025, in cumulative terms, positive growth in turnover was also seen at the sectors: Wholesale trade, which turnover value amounted to Denar 139,238 million, i.e. higher by 1.0% compared to the same period last year, and Retail trade, which turnover value amounted to Denar 101,829 million, being 1.8% higher compared to the same period last year, whereas drop was recorded at Trade in motor vehicles and repair, which turnover value amounted Denar 15,560 million, being lower by 5.2% compared to the same period last year.

In real terms, Retail trade in April 2025 recorded drop of 1.0%, while analysed by groups and classes, increase was only seen in Retail trade in automotive fuels by 6.1%, whereas decrease in the groups: Retail in food products, beverages and tobacco by 0.1% and Retail trade in non-food products by 6.4%.

In April 2025, Wholesale trade (54.3%) accounted for the most in the Trade sector, followed by Retail trade (38.9%) and Trade in motor vehicles and motorcycles, repair and their maintenance (6.8%).

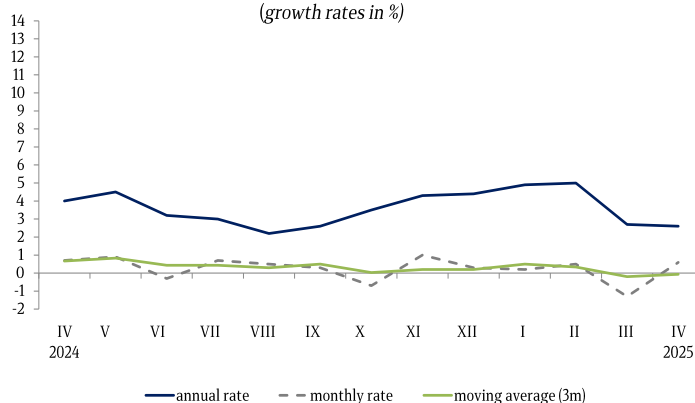
Inflation

In April 2025, inflation rate accounted for 2.6% on annual basis, continuing its downward trend from 2.7% in March 2025. Inflation growth in April was primarily driven by the core component, with the food component showing a decrease in its influence this month. Average inflation rate in the period January - April 2025 accounted for 3.8% on annual basis.

In April 2025, core inflation (inflation, wherefrom the impact of prices of food and energy products is excluded) recorded acceleration compared to the previous month and accounted for 5.3% on annual basis (4.8% in March). Increased prices in the category Restaurants and hotels had most positive contribution this month.

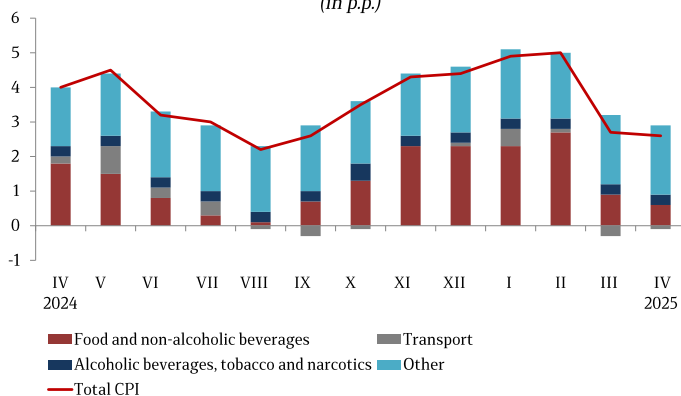
In April 2025, prices in the Food and non-alcoholic beverages category accounted for 1.5%, recording slowdown of growth compared to the previous month (2.1% in March), whereby contributing with 0.6 percentage points in the total inflation

Chart 1.13: Inflation rate
(growth rates in %)



Source: SSO.

Chart 1.14: Contributions to the annual inflation rate
(in p.p.)



Source: SSO.



in April, decreasing by 0.3 percentage points compared to the previous month. Prices in the Food industry category recorded a slowdown due to the new Government's measure¹ to cap margins on several groups of basic products. Following sub-categories: Non-alcoholic beverages (11.2% annual growth, and contribution of 0.3 p.p.), Vegetables (5.8% annual growth and contribution of 0.3 p.p.), Fruits (7.0% annual growth and contribution of 0.1 p.p.) and Oils and fats (annual 9.2% growth and contribution of 0.1 p.p.) contributed most positively to the Food and non-alcoholic beverages category.

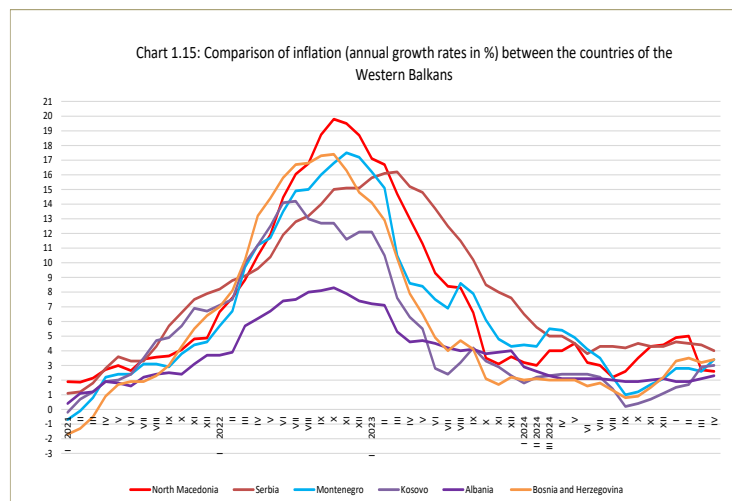
Observed by components, highest annual price growth in April 2025 was seen at the category Restaurants and hotels, with an increase of 11.4% (contributing 0.7 percentage points to the total inflation growth). Price increase was also recorded in the following categories: Recreation and culture (6.8%), Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics (5.1%), Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house (4.4%), both Health protection and Wearing apparel and footwear (4.0%), Miscellaneous goods and services (2.7%), Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (2.3%), Education (0.3%) and Communications (0.2%). A price drop of 1.7% was recorded in the Transport category.

In April, consumer prices grew by 0.6% on monthly basis (last month prices dropped by 1.3%). In April, food prices increased by 0.3% on monthly basis, stabilizing as a result of government-imposed margin caps measure¹ introduced at the end of February. The monthly price increase was also driven by rises across multiple categories, with the Transport category contributing the most, as it recorded a 5.1% growth primarily due to a seasonal increase in air traffic fares.

In April 2025, retail prices increased by 2.7% on annual basis, recording an acceleration of growth. On monthly basis, retail prices picked up by 1.6%.

The Eurozone inflation rate in April 2025 accounted for 2.2², remaining constant compared to March.

As per the ECB's projections, the inflation rate in 2025 is expected to decrease slightly to 2.3% in the short run, followed by further reductions to 1.9% in 2026 and 2.0% in 2027. A slight decrease in total inflation is anticipated in 2025. This is primarily due to higher food inflation and the upward base effects of energy prices, which, to great extent, offset the downward pressures from declining



¹ Since 20th February 2025, the Decision on the margin cap of 102 groups of basic food and hygiene products and price cap to 8 groups of most essential food products has been effective. Measures remain valid through 30th April 2025, inclusive. The decision to cap the gross profit margin in Wholesale and Retail Trade applies to 102 categories of products, in particular:

-5% gross profit margin set for eight basic food products,

-10% gross profit margin is applied to food products, covering a total of 55 food products (meat and meat products, sugar, milk products, margarine, butter, canned fruit and vegetables, beans, rice and pasta),

-15% gross profit margin set for 39 food and hygiene products (fresh fruit and vegetables, detergents, baby food, diapers, soap, toilet paper, and others).

² The data is estimated by Eurostat.



inflation. As the base effects in energy inflation diminish, a reduction in total inflation is projected for early 2026.

Stock Market Prices

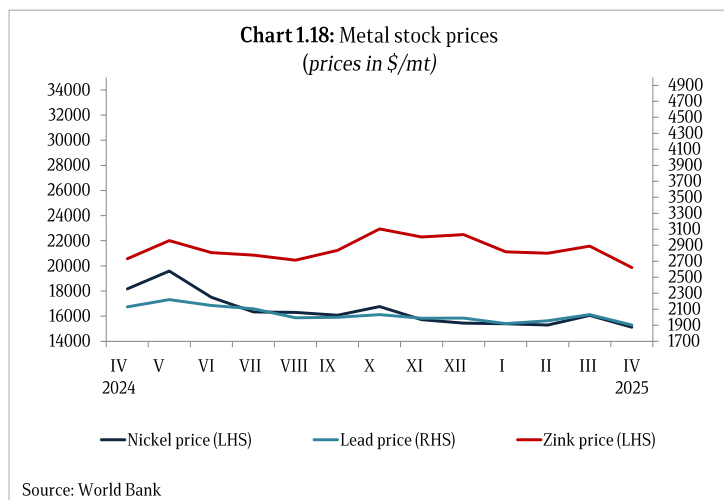
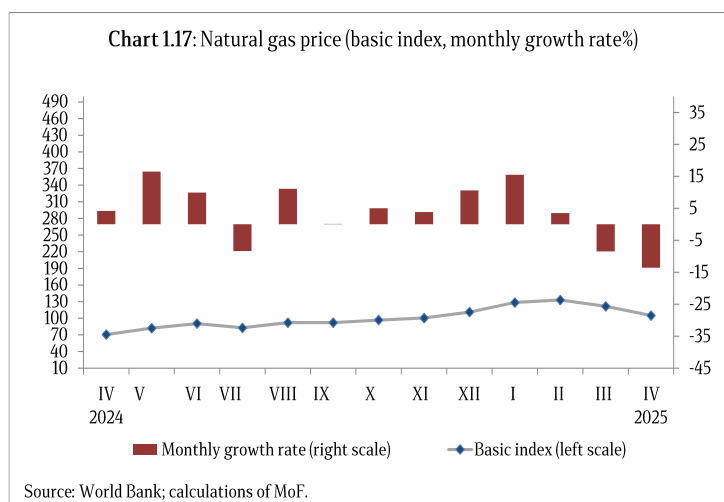
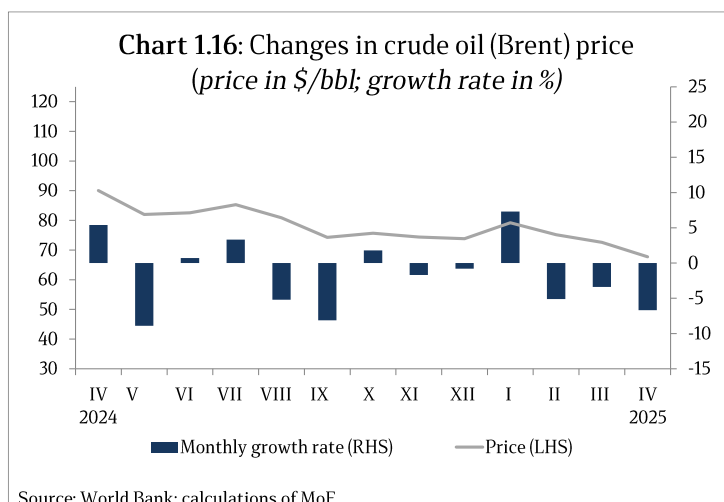
In April 2025, crude oil price (Brent) on the global stock markets dropped by 6.7% on monthly basis, amounting to US\$ 67.8 per barrel. The decline was attributed to several factors, such as the increased oil supply from non-OPEC+ countries and the introduction of trade tariffs, which have raised concerns about global economic growth and may lead to lower oil demand. Oil price was lower by 24.8% on annual basis.

Price of natural gas in April 2025 decreased by 12.4% on monthly basis. The drop in gas prices was

impacted by several factors, including weather conditions that led to reduction in overall demand, as well as the continued stability of domestic production in several countries, which contributed to the stabilization of prices. In April 2025, the natural gas price increased by 27.6% on annual level.

In April 2025, price of electricity, as per the Hungarian Power Exchange (HUPX), amounted to EUR 85.46 per megawatt/hour, decreasing by 21.6% on monthly basis. This month, electricity prices decreased due to several factors. In Europe, prices dropped as a result of decreased demand, increased energy production of renewable sources and decrease of gas prices. In April, electricity prices increased by 37.9% on annual basis.

This month, prices of all base metals recorded a decline on monthly basis, with aluminium decreasing by 10.8%, zinc by 9.3%, lead by 6.4%, copper by 5.8%, and tin by 4.4%. Price of iron ore registered monthly drop of 2.9%.





On monthly basis, in April 2025, gold prices recorded increase of 7.9%, while other precious metals declined, with silver decreasing by 2.9% and platinum by 2.2%.

In April, the price of maize increased by 3.7%, while price of wheat decreased by 3.5% on monthly basis. The price of the sunflower oil dropped by 0.6% on monthly basis.

Table 1.1. Stock market prices of energy products (monthly data)

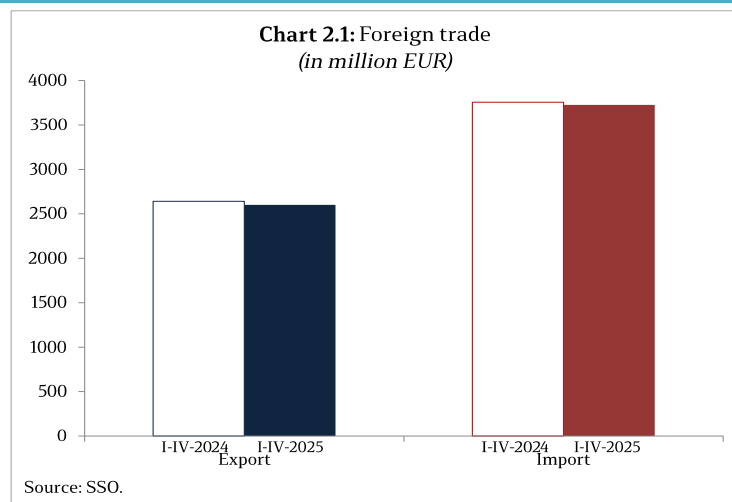
	Electricity (EUR/MWh)	Crude Oil, Brent (\$/bbl)	Natural GAS, Europe (\$/1000 m3)
2024 I	85.73	80.2	338.2
II	69.35	83.8	288.3
III	65.12	85.5	302.6
IV	61.96	90.5	321.4
V	72.2	82.0	358.2
VI	91.7	82.6	384.6
VII	135.5	85.3	366.1
VIII	120.8	80.9	437.8
IX	106.1	74.3	416.94
X	92.2	75.7	457.1
XI	163.7	74.4	492.7
XII	143.9	73.8	490.3
2025 I	140.2	79.2	518.8
II	158.9	75.2	542.8
III	109.0	72.6	468.3
IV	85.5	67.6	410.1

Source: World Bank, Hungarian Power Exchange

2. FOREIGN TRADE

Total foreign trade in the first four months of 2025 amounted to EUR 6,327.9 million, declining by 1.1% compared to the same period last year.

In the period January - April 2025, share of trade with the EU (EU 27), as the largest trading partner, decreased by 2.5 p.p. compared to the same period last year, accounting for 60.6%. Germany was the major trading partner of our country. As for total foreign trade structure of our country, share of the trade with Germany in the first four months of 2025, accounted for 21.1%, dropping by 3.5 p.p. compared to the same period in 2024.



Export

In the first four months of 2025, value of exported goods amounted to EUR 2,601.8 million, dropping by 1.5% (EUR 39.7 million) compared to the same period in 2024, while physical output of export decreased by 2.6% compared to the same period last year.



In April 2025, value of exported goods amounted to EUR 673.2 million, dropping by 5.5% (EUR 39.0 million) compared to the same month previous year, as well as physical output of export dropping by 7.9% compared to April 2024.

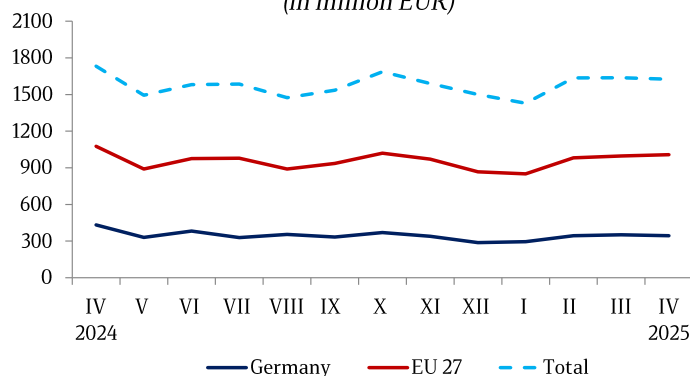
Analysed on monthly basis, in April 2025, export recorded a drop by 3.7% (EUR 25.9 million), compared to the previous month, and, after applying seasonal adjustment to exports, it registered a monthly growth of 3.5%, showing negative effects of the seasonal factor (7.2 p.p.) on export this month.

Value of export of food in the first four months of 2025 increased by EUR 10.6 million, picking up by 6.2% compared to the same period in 2024, while quantity of exported food decreased by 10.2%. As for our country's total export structure, share of the food in the first four months of 2025, accounted for 7.0%, increasing by 0.5 p.p. compared to the same period in 2024. In the total food export, the following products were the most exported: Fruit and vegetable (43.3%), Cereals and cereal products (22.0%), Meat and meat products (10.5%), and Milk products and eggs (7.1%).

Import

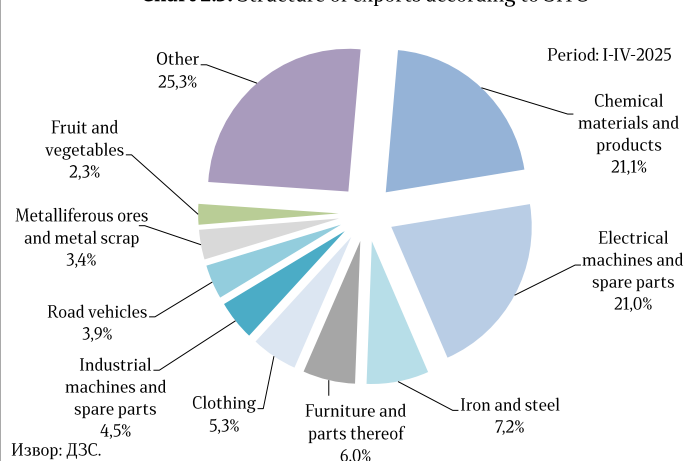
In the first four months of 2025, value of imported goods amounted to EUR 3,726.1 million, decreasing by 0.8% (EUR 30.4 million) compared to the same period in 2024, while physical output of import increased by 7.7%.

Chart 2.2: Foreign trade with Germany and EU 27
(in million EUR)



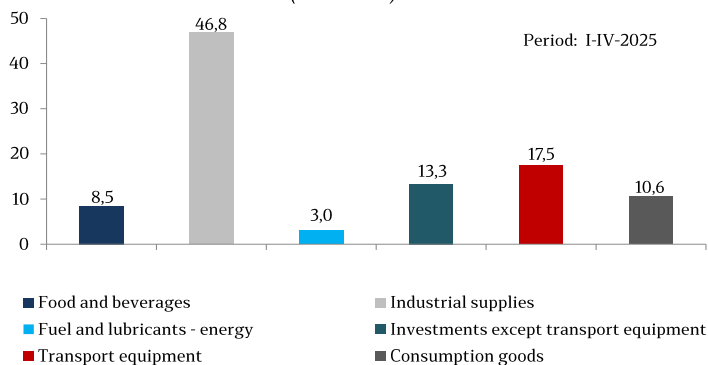
Source:SSO.

Chart 2.3: Structure of exports according to SITC



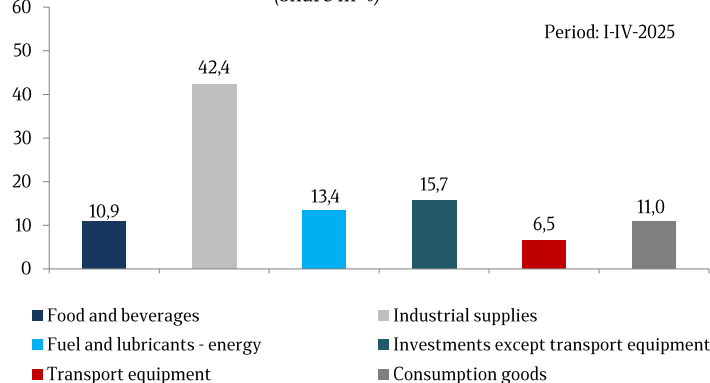
Извор: ДЗС.

Chart 2.4: Structure of exports by economic purpose
(share in %)



Source: SSO and MoF calculations

Chart 2.5: Structure of imports by economic purpose
(share in %)



Source: SSO and MoF



In April 2025, import value amounted to EUR 952.5 million, dropping by 6.5% (EUR 66.4 million) compared to the same month in 2024, while imported quantities of goods picked up by 1.6% compared to April 2024.

Analysed on monthly basis, in April 2025, import grew by 1.5% (EUR 13.8 million), compared to the previous month, and, after applying seasonal adjustment to import, it registered monthly increase of 0.8%, showing positive effects of the seasonal factor (0.6 p.p.) on import this month.

Value of import of food in the first four months of 2025 increased by EUR 4.6 million, picking up by 1.3% compared to the same period in 2024, while quantity of imported food decreased by 3.9%. As for our country's total import, share of the food in first four months in 2025, accounted for 9.9%, increasing by 0.2 p.p. compared to the same period in 2024. As per the total food import, the following products were the most imported: Meat and meat products (20.4%), Fruit and vegetable (17.6%), Cereals and cereal products (13.3%), Coffee, tea, cocoa and herbs (11.5%) and Milk products and eggs (10.6%).

Table 2.1. Review of export and import of selected groups of products

Export of petroleum and petroleum products*)				
	I-IV-2024	I-IV-2025	Balance	% rate
000 T	49,6	23,7	-25,9	-52,2
EUR mil.	36,6	17,3	-19,2	-52,6
\$ mil.	39,6	18,5	-21,1	-53,3

*)Previous data

Export of chemical products*)				
	I-IV-2024	I-IV-2025	Balance	% rate
000 T	16,3	23,4	7,1	43,5
EUR mil.	675,2	547,9	-127,3	-18,9
\$ mil.	730,2	586,2	-144,0	-19,7

*)Previous data

Export of iron and steel*)				
	I-IV-2024	I-IV-2025	Balance	% rate
000 T	236,1	245,5	9,3	3,9
EUR mil.	184,6	186,2	1,6	0,9
\$ mil.	199,9	199,1	-0,9	-0,4

*)Previous data

Import of petroleum and petroleum products*)				
	I-IV-2024	I-IV-2025	Balance	% rate
.000 T	352,5	353,4	0,9	0,3
EUR mil.	273,0	225,3	-47,6	-17,4
\$ mil.	295,5	240,6	-54,9	-18,6

*)Previous data

Import of chemical products*)				
	I-IV-2024	I-IV-2025	Balance	% rate
.000 T	10,7	10,7	0,0	0,2
EUR mil.	63,9	60,0	-3,9	-6,1
\$ mil.	69,1	64,2	-5,0	-7,2

*)Previous data

Import of iron and steel*)				
	I-IV-2024	I-IV-2025	Balance	% rate
.000 T	210,5	281,0	70,4	33,5
EUR mil.	147,1	177,1	30,0	20,4
\$ mil.	159,3	189,5	30,3	19,0

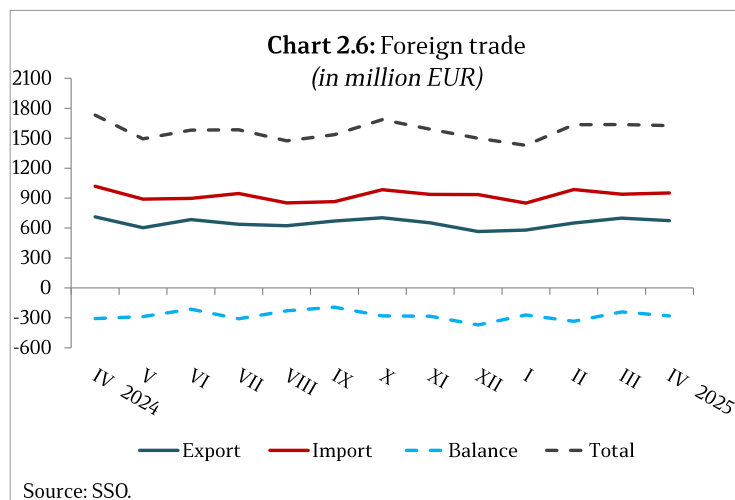
*)Previous data

Trade Balance

In April 2025, trade deficit declined by 8.9%, i.e. EUR 27.4 million compared to April 2024.

In the period January - April 2025, trade deficit increased by 0.8%, i.e. by EUR 9.4 million compared to the same period last year.

If we analyse the balance of export and import of goods by economic purpose, deficit increase was a result of the widened deficit of the trade in industrial supplies, fuels and lubricants, and consumer goods. On the other hand, reduction of the





deficit in the trade in investment goods without transport equipment and food and beverages, as well as increase of the positive balance in the trade in transport equipment, contributed to reducing the negative balance.

In the first four months of 2025, 88.7% of the trade deficit of the country was realized in the trade with Great Britain, China and Greece, followed by: Türkiye, Serbia, Poland, Italy, Bulgaria, and others. Surplus was realized in trade with Germany, Hungary and others.

Currency Structure

Observed by currency structure, 90.9% of the trade in the period January - April 2025 was realized in euro and compared to the same period in 2024, it decreased by 1.9 p.p.. On export and import side, euro accounted for 92.7% and 89.6%, respectively, whereby share of the euro in export was lower by 2.9 p.p., while share of the euro in import decreased by 1.1 p.p. compared to the period January – April 2024.

import	I - IV - 2024					I - IV - 2025					absolute change in currency value	relative change in currency value (in %)
currency	.000 T	import in currency	average Denar exch. Rate in relation to currencies	import in Denar	structure in %	.000 T	import in currency	average Denar exch. Rate in relation to currencies	import in Denar	structure in %		
EUR	2.058,8	3.407.907.983	61,5892	209.890.326.320	90,7	2.179,8	3.339.303.039	61,5733	205.611.907.822	89,6	-68.604.943	-2,0
USD	163,5	335.531.688	56,8844	19.086.518.738	8,2	215,0	379.606.389	57,6530	21.885.447.118	9,5	44.074.701	13,1
GBP	1,1	9.751.483	71,9191	701.317.848	0,3	0,6	6.531.946	73,2866	478.704.137	0,2	-3.219.536	-33,0
EUR+USD+GBP	2.223,5			229.678.162.905	99,0	2.395,4			227.976.059.077	99,4		
tot. import	2.230,1			231.361.189.815	100,0	2.402,8			229.440.513.284	100,0		-0,8

Source: SSO and NBRNM

Source: SSO and NBRNM

3. FISCAL SECTOR

Budget Revenues and Expenditures according to the Economic Classification

In the period January – April 2025, collection of total budget revenues of the Republic of North Macedonia's budget amounted to Denar 106,984 million, accounting for 29.8% of the 2025 projections, i.e. increase of 8.8% compared to collected budget revenues during the corresponding period in 2024. As regards total revenues, Denar 95,947 million was collected on the basis of tax revenues and social contributions, accounting for 30.1% of 2025 projected amount, being a 5.9% increase in relation to the previous year. Thereby, tax revenues were collected in the total amount of Denar 59,291 million (i.e. 29.9% of the amount projected for 2025), while social contributions were collected in the amount of Denar 36,138 million (representing a 6.8% annual increase, i.e. 30.9% of the amount projected for 2025). As regards tax revenues, increased collection was recorded at personal income tax by 1.8%, followed by VAT by 6.3%, excise duties increasing by 10.1%, and import duties by 15.6%, while decreased collection was recorded at corporate income tax (down 2.2%) and other tax revenues (down 24.3%). During this period, non-tax revenues grew by 32.4%, capital revenues increased by 22.8%, and foreign donation revenues surged by 122.3%.

Total budget expenditures were executed in the amount of Denar 121,688 million in the period January – April 2025, accounting for 30.4% of the annual projections, i.e. an increase of 8.0% compared to same period of 2024. Thereby, current expenditures were executed in the amount of Denar 112,477 million, i.e. 31.9% of the amount projected for the whole year, being an increase of 7.5% compared to the same period in 2024. Expenditures related to wages and allowances and interest-related expenditures recorded an increase by 10.2% and 13.9%, respectively, whereas goods and service-related expenditures declined by 4.2%. Transfers, as the largest category of current expenditures, increased by 7.4%, driven by the growth of social transfers by 9.8%, health care expenditures by 10.8%, and block and earmarked grants by 8.3%. Expenditures related to subsidies and transfers saw a reduction of 7.4%. Capital expenditures were executed in the amount of Denar 9,211 million, being by 14.1% higher compared to the same period in 2024. Execution rate of capital



expenditures for the period January – April 2025 accounted for 19.5% compared to the projected amount.

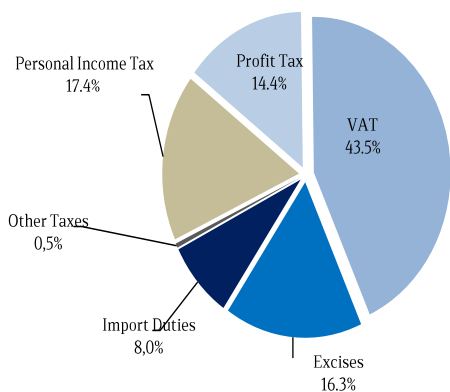
Table 3.1. State Budget Execution for the period January – April 2025

	2025 Budget	January - April 2025		
	(Denar million)	(Denar million)	Annual growth rate (%)	% of collection/executio n rate (%)
TOTAL REVENUES	358,838	106,984	8.8%	29.8%
Taxes and contributions	319,234	95,947	5.9%	30.1%
Taxes	198,607	59,291	5.3%	29.9%
Personal Income Tax	35,676	10,306	1.8%	28.9%
Corporate Income Tax	23,287	8,511	-2.2%	36.5%
VAT	86,692	25,794	6.3%	29.8%
Excise duties	35,388	9,637	10.1%	27.2%
Import charges	16,255	4,769	15.6%	29.3%
Other tax revenues	1,309	274	-24.3%	20.9%
Contributions	117,095	36,138	6.8%	30.9%
Non-tax revenues	26,302	8,600	32.4%	32.7%
Capital revenues	3,510	356	22.8%	10.1%
Foreign Donations	9,792	2,081	122.3%	21.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	400,188	121,688	8.0%	30.4%
Current expenditures	353,032	112,477	7.5%	31.9%
Wages and allowances	48,141	15,220	10.2%	31.6%
Goods and services	26,325	6,852	-4.2%	26.0%
Transfers	257,721	81,383	7.4%	31.6%
Social transfers	191,046	60,762	9.8%	31.8%
Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of North Macedonia	119,995	39,129	11.2%	32.6%
Employment Agency	3,439	496	-6.2%	14.4%
Social welfare	15,080	5,013	-1.6%	33.2%
Health protection	52,531	16,124	10.8%	30.7%
Other transfers	64,211	19,882	0.3%	31.0%
Interest	20,845	9,022	13.9%	43.3%
Capital expenditures	47,156	9,211	14.1%	19.5%
BUDGET BALANCE	-41,350	-14,704	2.2%	35.6%



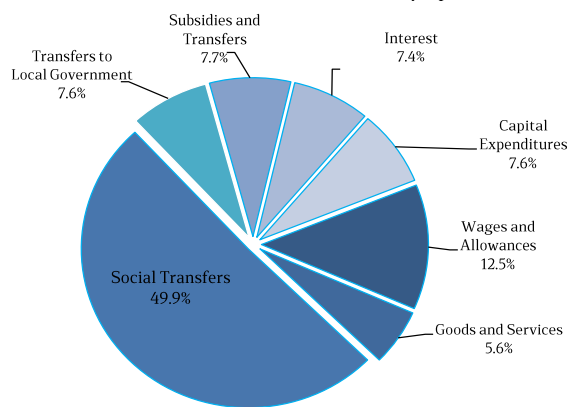
Source: Ministry of Finance

Chart 3.1: Structure of Collected Tax Revenues, January-April 2025



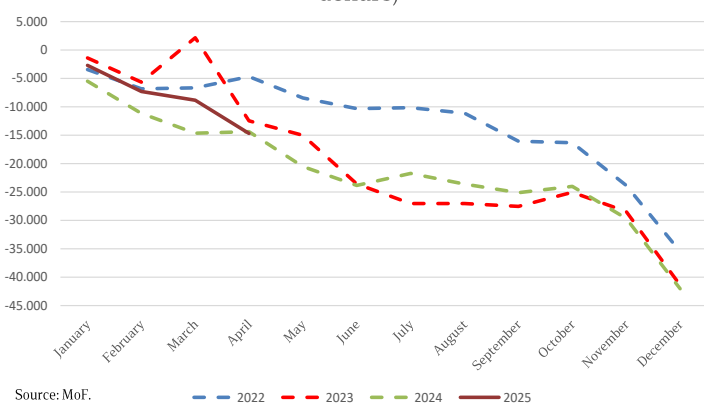
Source: MoF

Chart 3.2: Structure of Executed Expenditures according to Economic Classification, January-April 2025



Source: MoF.

Chart 3.3: Budget deficit, cumulative data (million denars)



Source: MoF.

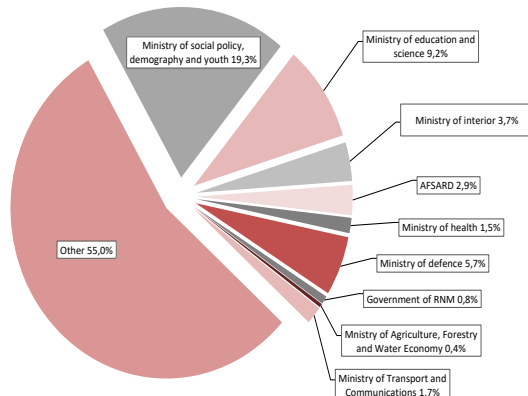
In the period January – April 2025, the state budget deficit amounted to Denar 14,704 million, accounting for 1.4% of the GDP projected for 2025, i.e. 35.6% of the budget deficit.

Expenditures by Budget Users

Review of budget expenditures for the largest budget users is given below.

In the period January – April 2025, Ministry of Social Policy, Demographics and Youth executed funds in the amount of Denar 28,218 million or 41.2% of its total budget for the current year. Thereby, most of the expenditures (75.5%) were allocated for current transfers to extra-budgetary funds, for which Denar 21,318 million was spent, i.e. 44.4% of the funds allocated for 2025. The second highest expenditure category was the social benefits, participating with 17.5% in the total expenditures, whereby

Chart 3.4: Structure of expenditures by budget users (January-April 2025)



Source: MoF.



34.7% (Denar 4,928 million) of the projected 2025 funds was executed for this purpose.

During the analysed period, Ministry of Education and Science executed budget funds in the amount of Denar 13,417 million, representing 30.9% of its total 2025 Budget. Current transfers to LGUs accounted for the most of the expenditures (57.7%), Denar 7,739 million being spent therefore or 32.3% of total projected funds. Wages and allowances category was the second highest expenditure item, accounting for 22.6%, for which an amount of Denar 3,029 million, accounting for 32.5%, being executed out of total projected funds.

In the period January – April 2025, Ministry of Internal Affairs executed expenditures in the total amount of Denar 5,368 million, accounting for 33.5% of its 2025 budget. Wages and allowances was the highest expenditure category, participating with 61.4%, Denar 3,296 million being spent therefore, accounting for 33.4% of the projected ones. Second highest category was Capital expenditures, accounting for 15.8%, with Denar 848 million being spent therefore, accounting for 36.6% of the annual projections.

During this period, the Agency for Financial Support in Agriculture and Rural Development executed expenditures in the amount of Denar 4,172 million, accounting for 50.9% of the funds projected for the current year. As for subsidies and transfers, with significant share of 96.4% of the total expenditures, 56.9% or Denar 4,021 million of the funds planned for the whole year, were spent therefore.

In the period January – April 2025, Ministry of Defence executed budget funds in the amount of Denar 8,243 million, accounting for 40.3% of its total budget this year. Capital expenditures accounted for the most with 52.1%, Denar 4,298 million being spent therefore, accounting for 50.5% of the total funds projected for the current year. Wages and allowances accounted for 25.2% of total expenditures, Denar 2,081 million being spent therefore during the analysed period, i.e. 30.7% execution of the total projected funds.

Government of the Republic of North Macedonia spent a total of Denar 1,130 million, i.e. 16.4% of the funds projected, in the period January – April 2025. Thereby, subsidies and transfers accounted for 57.1% of total expenditures of this budget user, Denar 645 million (13.0% of the projected funds) being spent therefore.

During the analysed period, Ministry of Health executed budget funds in the amount of Denar 2,123 million, accounting for 27.2% of the total 2025 Budget. Goods and services accounted for the most in the expenditures with 48.1%, Denar 1,022 million being executed therefore, i.e. 29.1% of the funds allocated for 2025. Second most significant item are the current transfers to extra-budgetary funds, Denar 965 million (27.6% of the projections for the year) being spent therefore, accounting for 45.4% of total expenditures.

In the period January – April 2025, Ministry of Transport executed funds in the amount of Denar 2,487 million, i.e. 13.9% of the total budget for the current year. Execution of capital expenditures, as main item, accounted for 88.5% of the total spent funds of this budget user (Denar 2,201 million or 13.3% of total projected funds).

During this period, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy executed funds in the amount of Denar 514 million, accounting for 27.9% of the funds projected for 2025. Wages and allowances (Denar 259 million) was, by far, the highest item in the total expenditures of this budget user, accounting for 50.4% of its total expenditures, with 30.4% of the projected expenditures, being executed. As regards capital expenditures, they accounted for 28.6% of the total expenditures, Denar 147 million being spent therefore, accounting for 24.4% of the total budget for this purpose.

In-depth data on each budget user are presented in the statistical annex attached at the following link (<http://finance.gov.mk/краткорочни-економски-движења-кед-ме/>).



4. SOCIAL SECTOR

Newly Employed and Registered Unemployed Persons in the Employment Service Agency

In April 2025, Employment Service Agency registered total of 63,024 new employments. Total number of newly employed persons decreased by 1.8% compared to the same period in 2024.

As regards the total number of newly employed, 45.0% was engaged on permanent basis, while the remaining

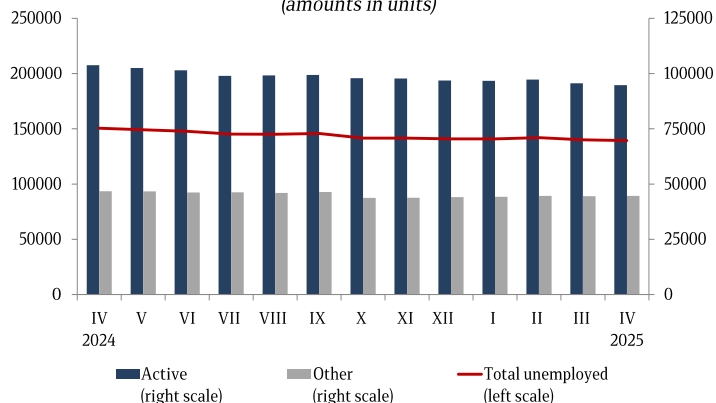
percentage was engaged on temporary basis and as seasonal workers. In April 2025, 13.7% out of the total number of newly employed persons was from the unemployed records.

Total number of unemployed persons in April 2025 was 139,402, out of which 94,764 persons were active job seekers, while 44,638 persons were from the category “other unemployed”. On annual basis, total number of unemployed persons decreased by 7.4%, whereas, starting from May 2021, it recorded a continuous annual reduction. Number of unemployed persons decreased by 677 people compared to March 2025.

Urban residents accounted the most (with 59.1%) among the active unemployed persons, whereas with respect to gender, men accounted for 48.1% of the total. Analysed by the level of education, majority, i.e. 68.9%, of the unemployed persons were with incomplete secondary education or less, 23.6% were with completed secondary education, while 7.5% of the unemployed persons were with completed community college or higher education level.

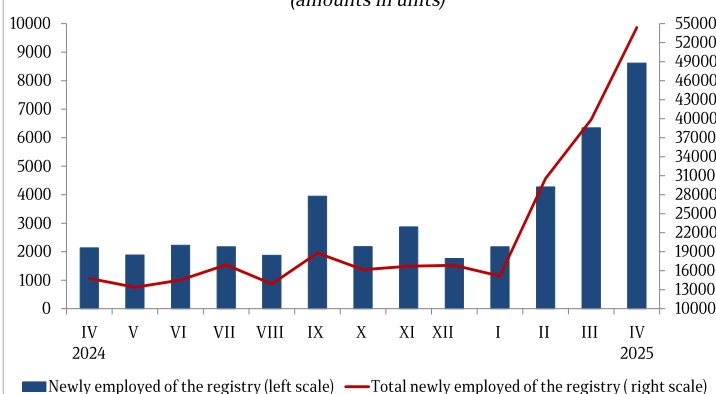
Analysed by age structure, 50.1% of the unemployed people belonged to the group aged 25-49 years. With respect to waiting time for employment, 59.6% of the unemployed persons wait for employment from 1 to 7 years, while 13.8% wait for employment for 8 years or more.

Chart 4.1: Summary of unemployed from ESARNM
(amounts in units)



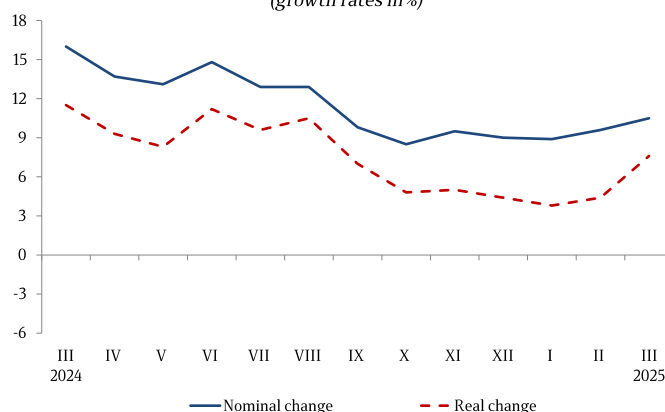
Source: ESARNM.

Chart 4.2: Summary of new employments
(amounts in units)



Source: ESARNM.

Chart 4.3: Average net-wage
(growth rates in %)



Source: SSO



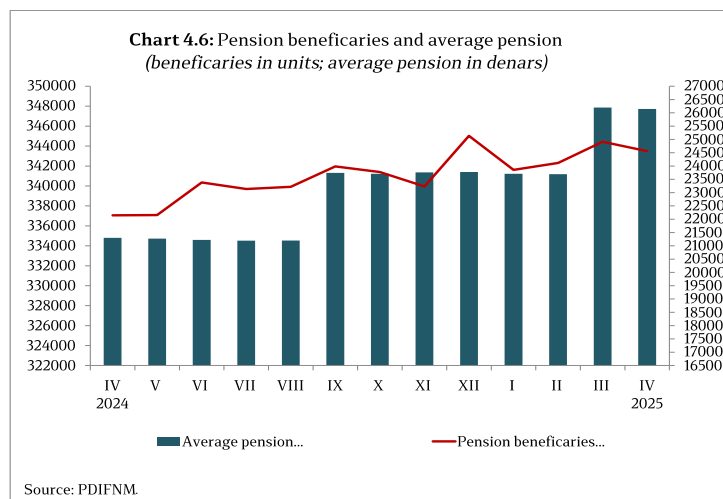
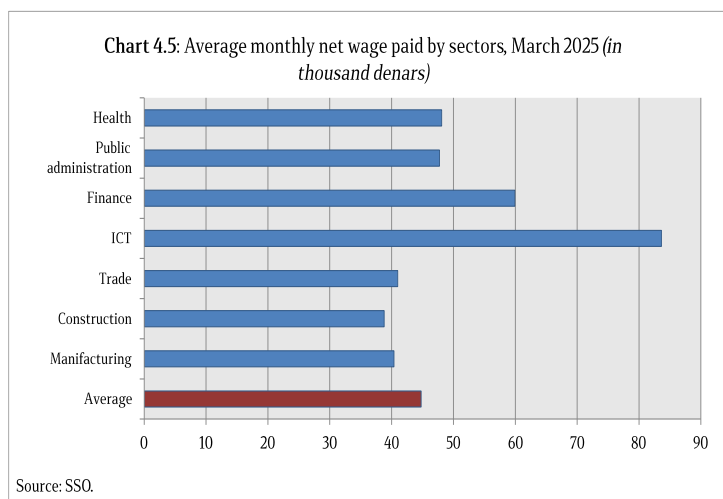
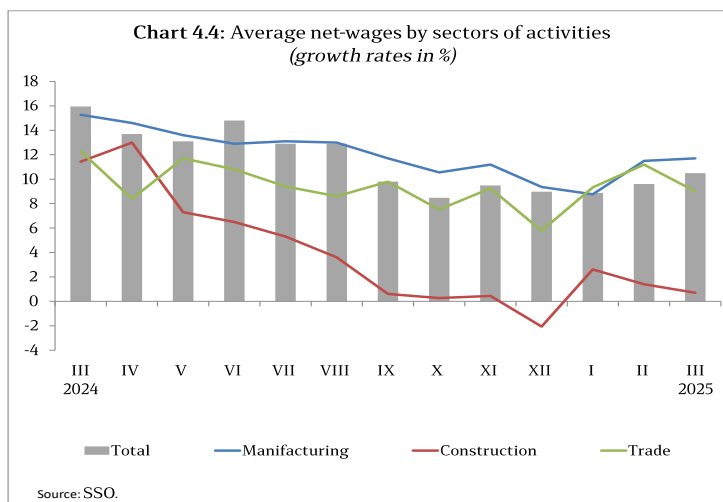
Wages

As per the notification of the State Statistical Office, in March 2025, average net wage amounted to Denar 44,763, in nominal terms, being higher by 10.5% on annual basis, and being higher by 4.0% compared to February 2025. The highest increase of average net wage, in relation to March 2024, was observed at the following sectors: Education (15.8%), Mining and quarrying (14.1%) and Administrative and support service activities (12.5%). In March 2025, wages picked up by 7.6% in real terms on annual basis. Highest average net wage in March 2025 was paid in the Information and communications sector (Denar 83,615), wherein highest amount of net wage was paid in the activity Computer programming, consulting and related activities (Denar 103,854), followed by Financial and insurance activities sector with an average net wage of Denar 59,916, Mining and quarrying sector with Denar 58,183, and Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector with average net wage in the amount of Denar 56,433.

Average nominal gross wage in March 2025 amounted to Denar 67,240 and compared to the same month in 2024, increased by 10.6%, being higher by 4.0% on monthly basis. The highest increase of average gross wage in March 2025, compared to March 2024, was recorded in the following sectors: Education (16.0%), Mining and quarrying (14.2%) and Agriculture, forestry and fishing (12.3%).

Pensions

In April 2025, Pension and Disability Insurance Fund registered 343,496 pensioners. In September 2024, the Law on Pension and Disability Insurance was amended, according to which, from 1st October 2024, there was a linear increase in all types of pensions by 2,500 Denars in September 2024 and in March 2025. As regards the total number of pensioners, 71.3% are beneficiaries of old-age pension, amounting to 244,837 pensioners, 21.5% of





survivor pension, amounting to 73,862 pensioners and 7.2% of disability pension, amounting to 24,797 pensioners.

Average pension in April 2025 amounted to Denar 26,146, being higher by 22.8% compared to the same month in 2024.³ In April 2025, average old-age pension amounted to Denar 27,784, average disability pension amounted to Denar 23,671, while average survival pension amounted to Denar 21,549. This month, Denar 8,940 million was spent for payment of pensions, accounting for 55.6% of the total social transfers.

Ratio between the average pension in April 2025 and the average paid wage in March 2025 (the most recent available data) was 58.5%.

Chart 4.1 April 2025 Pension Data

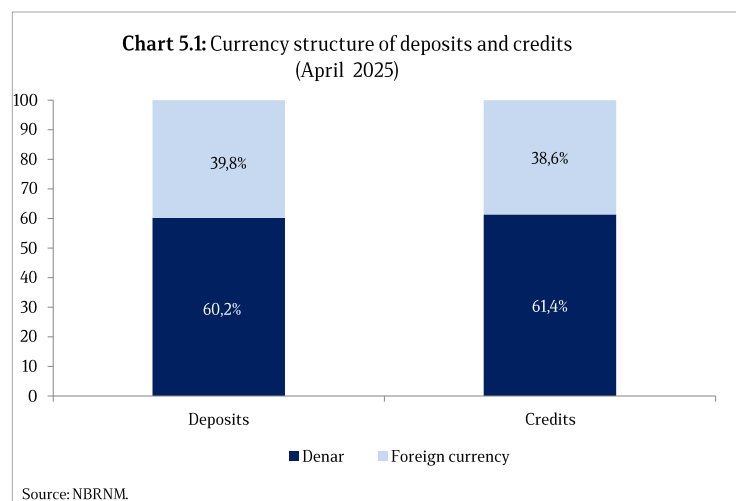
Pension beneficiaries	Number	Structure	Average pension
Old age pension	244,837	71.3%	27,784.00
Disability pension	24,797	7.2%	23,671.00
Survivor pension	73,862	21.5%	21,549.00
Total	343,496	100.0%	26,146.00
Minimal agricultural pension beneficiaries	33		15,897.00
Beneficiaries of military pensions	717		34,700.00
Total	344,246		26,163.00

Source: Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of North Macedonia

5. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL SECTOR

In April 2025, the National Bank retained its policy rate at 5.35%, amid ever more present risks brought about by external factors. The decision on gradual loosening of the monetary policy was based on assessment of inflation and favourable trends on the foreign exchange market.

In April 2025, the National Bank kept the policy rate at the level of 3.95% for the available overnight deposits and 4.00% for the seven-day deposits.



³ Military and agricultural pensions are not included when calculating the average pension.



Primary Money

In April 2025, primary money⁴ grew by 8.5% on monthly basis. Increase of primary money was a result of increase of both total liquid assets and currency in circulation by 13.5% and by 3.7%, respectively.

In April 2025, primary money grew by 16.6% on annual basis, as a result of both increased total liquid assets of banks by 20.7% and currency in circulation by 12.4%.

Deposit Potential⁵

In April 2025, total deposits of banks grew by 0.4% on monthly basis. Sector analysis showed that, compared to the previous month, deposits of enterprises declined by 2.5%, while deposits of households increased by 2.0%.

Analysed by currency, in April 2025, compared to the previous month, Denar deposits increased by 2.7%, while foreign currency deposits decreased by 2.9%.

Total deposit potential in April 2025 surged by 11.6% on annual basis. Analysed by currency, domestic currency deposits increased by 17.5%, and foreign currency deposits by 3.9%.

From sectoral point of view, deposits of enterprises grew by 12.0%, and deposits of households increased by 12.1% on annual basis.

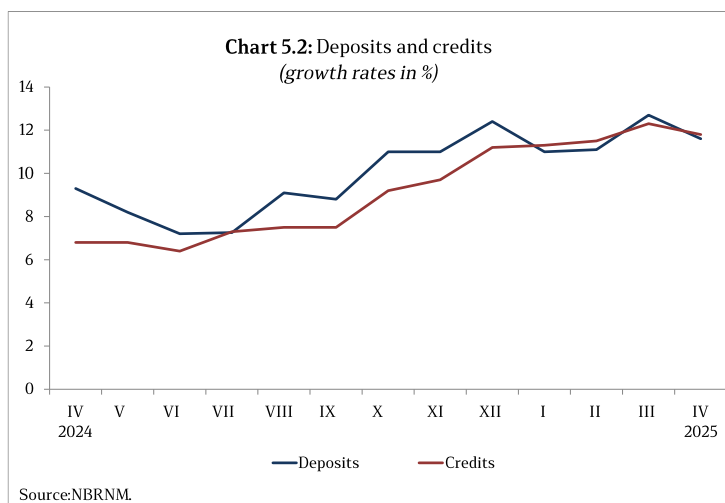


Table 5.1. Deposit potential and credits to the private sector

Deposit potential and credits to private sector (April 2025)	in Denar million	Monthly change	Annual change
Deposit Potential	600,920	0.4%	11.6%
By currency:			
Denar	361,571	2.7%	17.5%
Foreign currency	313,161	-2.9%	3.9%
By maturity:			
Short-term	222,939	-2.6%	4.3%
Long-term	150,389	0.4%	18.8%

⁴Primary money is calculated as a sum of currency in circulation (including cash in hand), denar and foreign currency reserve requirement and the surplus of liquid assets over the reserve requirement.

⁵NBRNM published data from monetary statistics, statistics of other financial corporations and statistics of interest rates according to the new methodology. Methodologic changes were made for the purpose of harmonization with the recommendations under the newly published IMF Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual and Compilation Guide as of 2016 (MFSMCG – IMF, 2016) and the IMF Technical Mission in the field of monetary and financial statistics in NBRNM as of 2015.



Credits to private sector	508,520	0.8%	11.8%
By currency:			
<i>Denar</i>	317,459	1.5%	19.4%
<i>Foreign currency</i>	191,061	-0.3%	1.3%
By maturity:			
<i>Short-term</i>	78,997	-0.5%	16.7%
<i>Long-term</i>	414,193	1.1%	11.6%

Source: NBRNM

According to maturity, short-term deposits increased by 4.3%, while long-term deposits surged by 18.8%, on annual basis.

Currency structure of deposits remained stable, whereby share of domestic currency deposits in the deposit base was dominant and accounted for 60.2% this month.

Bank Credits

In April 2025, total credits of banks to the private sector surged by 0.8% on monthly basis, as a result of the growth of both credits to enterprises by 1.0%, and credits to households by 0.6%.

Analysed by currency, Denar credits picked up by 1.5%, and foreign currency credits decreased by 0.3% on monthly basis.

On annual basis, total credits grew by 11.8% in April 2025, amid conditions of growth of both credits to enterprises and credits to households by 14.1% and 9.8%, respectively. Denar credits surged by 19.4%, while foreign currency credits increased by 1.3%.

As regards maturity, long-term credits grew by 11.6% on annual basis, and short-term credits picked up by 16.7%.

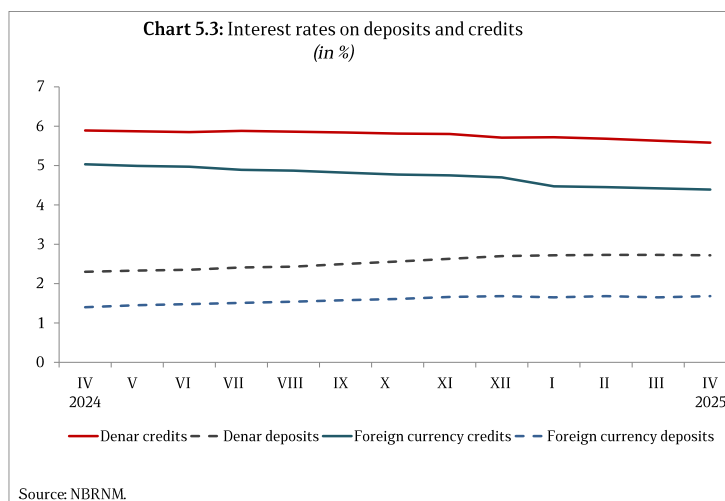
Interest Rates of Deposit Banks

In April 2025, total interest rate on credits dropped by 0.04 p.p. compared to the previous month, accounting for 5.11%. Interest rate on Denar credits dropped by 0.05 p.p., accounting for 5.58%, while interest rate on foreign currency credits decreased by 0.03 p.p. on monthly basis, accounting for 4.39%.

Total interest rate on deposits grew by 0.02 p.p. in April 2025, compared to last month, accounting for 2.20%.

Interest rate on Denar deposits decreased by 0.01 p.p., accounting for 2.72%, while interest rate on foreign currency deposits grew by 0.03 p.p., accounting for 1.68%.

Interest rate on newly granted Denar credits was 3.87%, while interest rate on newly approved foreign currency credits was 3.86%. Interest rates on newly received Denar and foreign currency deposits accounted for 2.59% and 1.98%, respectively.



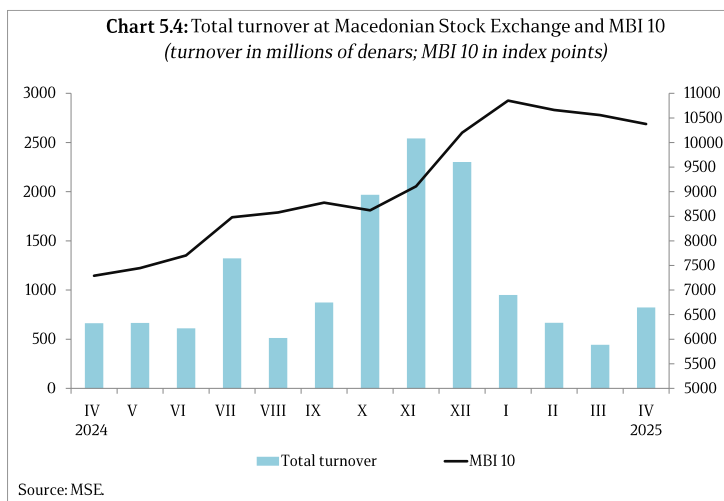


Capital Market

As for the capital market, in April 2025, total turnover on the stock exchange increased by 85.6% on monthly basis, as a result of both increase of turnover from block transactions by 1,748.5%, and turnover from classical trading in BEST by 1.4%.

Total turnover on the stock exchange amounted to Denar 822.5 million in April 2025, being an increase of 24.1% on annual basis.

At the end of April 2025, Macedonian Stock Exchange Index MSEI - 10 2025 amounted to 10,377.27 index points, whereby the index decreased by 1.7% on monthly basis, while, compared to the same month last year, the index was higher by 42.3%.



Reserve Assets

At the end of April 2025, gross reserve amounted to EUR 4,771.21 million, being lower by 0.4% compared to the previous month and higher by 10.2% compared to April 2024.